



[10191/1977]

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : BRINZ, Thomas et al. Confirmation No. 9532  
Serial No. : 09/913,374  
Filing Date : December 11, 2001  
For : **PROTECTIVE LAYER**  
Group Art Unit : 1743  
Examiner : Samuel P. SIEFKE

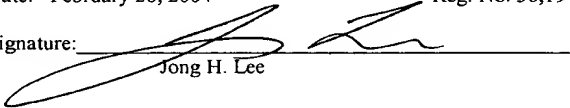
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**RULE 116 RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

S I R:

This paper addresses the final Office Action dated November 17, 2003 in connection with the above-captioned application.

**Amendments to the Claims** do not appear in this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 2 of this paper.